

Farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Brown

The Recreation Hall at Wreck Bay Station was the scene of a happy gathering one night recently when the residents of the Wreck Bay Station and other friends foregathered to say farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Brown who have resigned from the Board's service; Mr. Brown is taking up a position in the township of Nowra.

Mr. Saxby, the Superintendent, who had come from Sydney especially for the function, presented Mr. and Mrs. Brown with a beautiful set of carvers as a token of the esteem in which he was held, both by the residents and those with whom he had come into contact in his official capacity as Manager. Eulogistic remarks regarding Mr. Brown's work as the first person of aboriginal blood to have held a position with the Board, were made by Mr. Saxby, Mr. Mullins, the Secretary of the Board, Mrs. Inspector English, the Rev. Mr. Bray, on behalf of the Nowra Ministers' Fraternal, Mr. Hobson of the Department of the Interior, and Mr. Sephton, the Welfare Officer for the district who was also Chairman for the evening. Mrs. English presented Mrs. Brown with a beautiful floral spray as a farewell gift from the girls at Head Office.

The Wreck Bay Gum Leaf Band were to have given an item of harmony, and although there was a large supply of instruments in the shape of boughs of gum leaves, the Band had stage-fright at the last minute and could not be persuaded to perform. Possibly this was due to the presence of so many distinguished visitors.

After the meeting, the visitors all repaired to the Domestic Science Room where a supper, tastefully prepared by Mrs. Timbery, with Mrs. Ardler's assistance, was partaken of.

At 11 p.m., the official party from Sydney, Mr. Saxby, Mrs. English, Miss Fleming, and Mr. and Mrs. Mullins, departed on their return journey to Sydney.

Meet a Member of the Board

Mr. Norman Drummond, B.A.

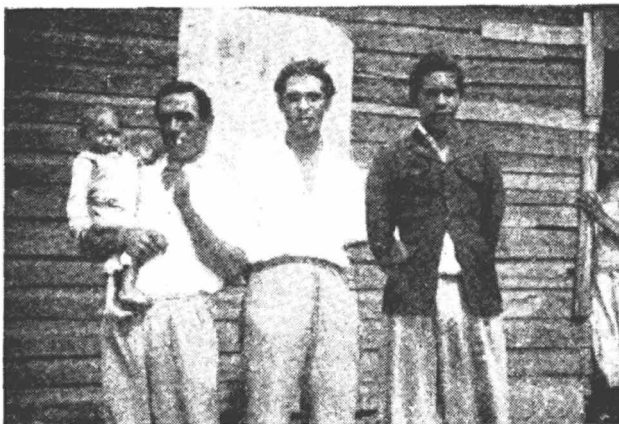
Mr. Norman Drummond, B.A., Director of Primary Education and Deputy Director-General of Education, became a member of the Aborigines Welfare Board in February, 1955. He comes from a family that have always been interested in country affairs. His father, the late James Drummond, was one time on the Executive of the Farmers and Settlers' Association, while his brother, the late Stanley G. Drummond, M.B.E., was founder of the Far West Children's Health Scheme which now operates over most of New South Wales, including the North Coast.



Mr. Drummond served in France with the 2nd Infantry Battalion in World War I and while overseas attended London University.

As Headmaster, Mr. Drummond was in charge of the schools at Wyalong, Canowindra and Murrumburrah, and Newtown Secondary Junior Technical School.

As Inspector of Schools in the Inverell District from 1935-38, Mr. Drummond became very interested in Aboriginal Schools as at that time there were four in his district. He saw the need for better schools and fully trained teachers so that it is a great pleasure to him, as Director of Primary Education, to record that the Aboriginal Schools in New South Wales are now staffed with trained teachers on an equality with the public schools under his administration. Mr. Drummond is a strong believer in the Board's policy of assimilation and is at all times ready to support the Board's activities in the interests of the Aboriginal people. Under his administration the Department has been able to provide more equipment and supplies of materials to Aboriginal Schools. He is justly proud of the good work being done by the Aboriginal teachers who are now in the permanent employment of the Education Department.



Charlie and Ray Ellis, Ray Livermore, and Mrs. Ellis, of Tingha.